



BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1950

Medical Officer of Health:

DR. A. BARLOW, M.B., Ch.B.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL,

BRIERFIELD.

August, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members,
BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

In accordance with a Ministry of Health instruction an Interim Report only, on the lines of the last report, is presented for the year 1950. It includes only essential or urgent matters, which have affected public health during the year. All records and statistics are being preserved so that the annual records may, as far as practicable, be continuous and complete.

I have pleasure, therefore, in submitting for your consideration the following interim report on the Health, Sanitary conditions and Public Health administration in the Urban District of Brierfield for the year ended 31st December, 1950.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1950, according to the Rate Book, was 2,485, the Rateable Value being £43,263 and the sum represented by a penny rate being £180.

The social conditions were good, but there was some overcrowding; the chief industry is Cotton Weaving, with a small amount of Spinning and Dyeing.

VITAL STATISTICS

Home Population - Registrar-General's estimate, mid-1950: 7,120.

	Total	M	F
(Legitimate	89	47	42
(Illegitimate	1	1	-
(Total -	90	48	42

Still births	3	1	2
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Deaths (TOTAL)	104	46	58
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(a) Within the District	75	37	38
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(b) Outside the District	29	9	20
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Birth-rates per 1,000 estimated home population, mid-1950:-

Crude	12.6
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Adjusted	14.0
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Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	32
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Death-rate per 1,000 estimated home population, mid-1950:-

Crude	14.6
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Adjusted	13.1
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Maternal Mortality:-

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	---
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil

Death-rate of infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	22
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	22
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Neo-natal Mortality:-

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	1
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	11

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Per 1,000 Est. Population

	Live Birth- rate	Crude Death- rate	Death- rate Resp.T.B.	Death- rate Cancer
Mean of 5 years, 1945-1949	17.2	14.6	0.24	2.17
Year 1949	14.8	13.9	Nil	2.41
Year 1950	12.6	14.6	0.28	1.67
Increase or decrease in 1950 on 5 years' average, 1945-1949	-4.6	Nil	+ 0.04	-0.5
Previous Year	-2.2	+ 0.7	+ 0.28	-0.74

	Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under 1yr. per 1,000 Live Births
	Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths	
Mean of 5 years, 1945-1949	Nil	Nil	29
Year 1949	Nil	Nil	19
Year 1950	Nil	Nil	22
Increase or decrease in 1950 on 5 years' average, 1945-1949	Nil	Nil	-7
Previous Year	Nil	Nil	' 3

SUMMARY OF DEATHS

<u>CAUSE OF DEATH</u>	Under 1 yr.	1- 5	5- 15	15- 25	25- 65	65 & Over	<u>TOTAL</u>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis						2	2
Cancer					2	10	12
Diabetes					1		1
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System					3	12	15
Coronary Disease, Angina etc.					6	12	18
Hypertension, with Heart Disease						6	6
Other Heart Diseases					2	15	17
Other Circulatory Diseases					1	5	6
Influenza						1	1
Pneumonia	1						1
Bronchitis					1	2	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum					1		1
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea					1		1
Nephritis & Nephrosis						1	1
Accident			1	3	1		5
Suicide				2	3		5
Senile Decay						2	2
Uraemia			1			1	2
Asphyxia	1						1
Intestinal Obstruction					1		1
Fracture of Femur						1	1
Strangulated Hernia						1	1
Paralytic Ileus						1	1
	2	-	-	2	24	76	104

VENEREAL DISEASE The nearest Clinic is at Burnley. Any cases discovered are advised to attend the Burnley Clinic.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

WATER Brierfield is supplied with a constant supply of water from the mains of Nelson Corporation, and there were no new sources of supply during the year. The water is of good quality and in good supply, apart from a few houses in Marsden Heights area, where the supply is intermittent, and a few houses in various streets where, probably, the joint service pipes are too small. With one exception, all houses in the District are supplied direct from public mains. There was evidence of contamination in the case of two samples taken from the well at Little Tom's Farm.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL No extensions to sewers or sewage works were made during the year, and the existing services and arrangements have been efficiently maintained.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION There are approximately 14 pail closets in the District, at isolated cottages in Marsden Heights and Linedred Farm.

SCAVENGING

This was carried out by the Council's own workmen, with a two-ton "Bedford" Tipping Waggon. Domestic refuse was collected weekly free of charge from private houses, shops and mills, and disposed of at the Council's Destructor Works.

SALVAGE

Salvage work has been efficiently maintained, and the following amounts of materials were salvaged during the year:-

<u>Weights</u>				<u>Material</u>	<u>Amount Realised</u>		
T	C	Q	Lb.		£.	s.	d.
110	12	-	-	Waste Paper	699.	6.	0.
99	5	-	-	Kitchen Waste	319.	3.	0.
1	4	2	26	Rags	22.	6.	11.
	4	2	1	Aluminium	8.	17.	10.
	7	-	5	Bones	2.	0.	5.
39	16	2	-	Baled Tins	57.	0.	6.
3	-	-	-	Black Scrap	3.	15.	0.
5	14	2	-	Scrap Iron	12.	17.	8.
				Paper Bonus	6.	15.	0.
<hr/>					<hr/>		
260	4	1	4		£1132.	2.	4.
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Comparative figures regarding salvage over the last three years are shown in the following tables:-

1950				1949				1948			
Weight		Value		Weight		Value		Weight		Value	
T	C	Q	£	T	C	Q	£	T	C	Q	£
260	4	1	1132	256	7	2	1159	284	9	3	1171

SANITARY INSPECTION

	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Nuisance</u>	<u>Notices</u>		<u>Remedied</u>
	<u>Visited</u>	<u>Discovered</u>	<u>Prel.</u>	<u>Stat.</u>	
Sanitary Inspections during 1950 (including housing)	1192	143	68	17	75

DISINFESTATION

Houses found to be infested One
Houses disinfested One

When required, disinfestation is by means of "Vermicine" and "Cescones" poison gas, carried out by the Local Authority, at the expense of the owner or occupier.

HOUSING

CONDITIONS

The majority of the houses are in rows, stone-built, 70 years old. Later types are brick-built, semis mainly, many of the houses being owner-occupied and well maintained.

STATISTICS

Three traditional permanent houses were erected during the year and thirty-seven permanent houses were in hand at 31st December, 1950.

OVERCROWDING

One new case of overcrowding occurred during the year, and thirty-five dwellings were known to be overcrowded at the end of the year, involving one hundred and eighty-nine persons in forty-nine families.

HOUSES REQUIRED
TO ALLEVIATE
OVERCROWDING

There is a definite shortage of three-bedroom type houses. To meet overcrowding, fifty three-bedroom, thirty two-bedroom and thirty one-bedroom type houses are required. Houses are also required for newly-married couples and bungalows for old people now living with their children.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS

DAIRIES AND
MILKSHOPS

The milk supply is plentiful, its quality wholesome, and it is distributed throughout the District directly by farmers in the vicinity. Periodical inspections of places where food is prepared have been made, and the premises generally have been found in good order.

MEAT

All slaughtering has been transferred to Abattoirs outside the District.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

All cases of infectious diseases were visited upon notification, and where patients are not transferred to Isolation Hospital, they are isolated in one room of the house. Disinfectants are kept at the Town Hall and supplies are given to necessitous cases.

MEASLES

Twenty-two cases of Measles were notified during the year. They were mostly of a mild type, with no deaths.

WHOOPIING
COUGH

Forty-nine cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year, and there were no deaths. Two cases received treatment in Hospital.

DIPHTHERIA

No case of Diphtheria was notified during the year.

SCARLET FEVER

Four cases of Scarlet Fever were notified and two cases received treatment in Hospital.

POLIOMYELITIS

There was one case of Poliomyelitis notified, whose source of infection could not be discovered.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1950

<u>AGE PERIOD</u>	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-
	1	4	1	-	-	2	-	-

CASES ON REGISTER AT 31st December, 1950

On the Register at the end of December 1950 there were 37 cases of Tuberculosis, 23 Pulmonary and 14 Non-Pulmonary.

	Under 1 yr.	1- 5	5- 15	15- 25	25- 35	35- 45	45- 55	55- 65	Over 65	<u>TOTAL</u>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis				6	4	5	4	3	1	23
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis:										
Spine					2					2
Cervical Glands		1	3	2		1				7
Testis							1			1
Abdomen			1							1
Rt. Knee Joint			1							1
Both Legs							1			1
Peritoneum		1								1
	-	2	5	8	6	6	6	3	1	37

As these cases are dealt with by the County Tuberculosis Officer, we have no direct information about the number of cases receiving allowances.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR

	Total cases at all ages	Under 1 yr. 1	1- 3	3- 5	5- 10	10- 15	15- 25	25- 45	45- 65	65 and over	Total Deaths	Total cases removed to Hospital from the District	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to the District
Dysentery												1	0
Measles	22	1	3	11	7								
Whooping Cough	49	2	12	23	12							2	
Scarlet Fever	4				3	1						2	
Pneumonia	6							2	4				
Erysipelas	2								2				
Poliomyelitis	1		1									1	
84		3	16	34	22	1		2	6		Nil	6	Nil

0 Diagnosed after admission

LABORATORY WORK

SPECIMENS EXAMINED DURING YEAR 1950

Swabs for Diphtheria)
Faeces: Pathogenic organisms) Nil
Sputum for Tuberculosis)

FOOD SPECIMENS & SAMPLES

<u>Type</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Results</u>	
		<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Tinned Oysters	1	1	-
Milk	10	8	2
Drinking Water	3	1	2

ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

There are no Social Workers in this area, but the Burnley and District House of Help does good service in this connection.

